

CLAIMS

Add B1
 Add A1
 Add A2

1. A method for interfacing between first and second devices interconnected via a CEBus control channel comprising the steps of:

5 receiving in said first device via a user interface of said first device a command requiring control of a capability of said second device;

sending from said first device to said second device via said CEBus control channel a request for control of said capability of said second device;

10 determining in said second device in response to an attribute of an audio or video signal received by said second device that control of said capability requires a first password entered into said second device via a user interface of said second device;

sending to said first device from said second device via said CEBus control channel a notification that said first password is required;

15 entering a second password into said first device via said user interface of said first device;

sending from said first device to said second device via said CEBus control channel an authenticate packet comprising said second password;

20 validating said authenticate packet in said second device by processing said authenticate packet with an authentication algorithm which uses said first password as a key;

and

enabling said first device to access said capability of said second device if said authenticate packet passes validation; or

25 sending an error indication to said first device from said second device via said CEBus control channel if said authenticate packet fails validation.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of validating said authenticate packet comprises the step of validating said authenticate packet for each of a plurality of passwords known to said second device; each of said plurality of passwords being associated with a different level of security.

6871364-19872350

claim 2 wherein the
sending from said
packet with an error
the packet passes via
said second device

claim 2 wherein the
sending from said s
packet with a reject c